AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims replaces all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (Previously Presented) A method of performing wireless communications, comprising:

communicating bearer traffic for a packet-switched communications session between a mobile station and a first base station associated with a first type of wireless system;

determining if handoff is required from the first base station to a second base station associated with a second, different type of wireless system; and

in response to determining that the handoff is required, sending a message from the first base station to the second base station over an interface between the first base station and second base station, the message indicating to the second base station that handoff is required.

2. (Cancelled)

3. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the first base station comprises an IS-2000 base station, and wherein communicating the bearer traffic comprises communicating the bearer traffic between the mobile station and the IS-2000 base station.

4. (Original) The method of claim 3, wherein determining if handoff is required from the first base station to the second base station comprises determining if handoff is required from the IS-2000 base station to a 1xEV access network.

5. – 7. (Cancelled)

8. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the first base station comprises a 1xEV access network, and wherein communicating the bearer traffic comprises communicating the bearer traffic between the mobile station and the 1xEV access network.

9. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 8, wherein determining if handoff is required from the first base station to the second base station comprises determining if handoff is required from the 1xEV access network to a 1xRTT base station.

10. – 11. (Cancelled)

12. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, further comprising sending another message from the second base station to the first base station to initiate a handoff procedure.

13. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 12, further comprising sending a further message from the first base station to the second base station to indicate that the mobile station has been directed to hand off to the second base station.

14. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein sending the message comprises sending the message over a link between the first base station and the second base station.

15. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, further comprising performing a hard handoff between the first base station and the second base station.

16. (Previously Presented) A first base station system that performs wireless communications with a mobile station according to a first protocol, the first base station system comprising:

an interface to a second base station system that performs wireless communications with the mobile station according to a second, different protocol; and

a controller to communicate bearer traffic for a packet-switched communications session with the mobile station,

the controller to further exchange messaging with the second base station system through the interface to perform a handoff of the packet-switched communications session from the first base station system to the second base station system.

17. (Previously Presented) The first base station system of claim 16, wherein the controller is to perform the handoff by performing a hard handoff.

18. (Previously Presented) The first base station system of claim 16, wherein the controller is to communicate bearer traffic according to a 1xRTT format with the mobile station.

19. (Cancelled)

20. (Previously Presented) The first base station system of claim 18, wherein the second base station system comprises a 1xEV base station, and wherein the controller is to exchange the messaging with the 1xEV base station.

21. (Previously Presented) The first base station system of claim 16, wherein the controller is to exchange the messaging by sending a message indicating that a handoff is required to the second base station system through the interface.

22. (Previously Presented) The first base station system of claim 21, wherein the controller is to exchange the messaging by receiving a message initiating the handoff procedure.

23. (Previously Presented) The first base station system of claim 22, wherein the controller is to send a further message from the first base station system to the second base station system to indicate that the mobile station has been directed to hand off to the second base station system.

24. (Currently Amended) An article comprising at least one machine-readable storage medium containing instructions that when executed cause a first base station system to:

exchange signaling according to a first protocol with a mobile station to establish a packet-switched communications session between the mobile station and another endpoint;

determine if a handoff is required to a second base station system that performs wireless communications with the mobile station according to a second, different protocol; and

exchange messaging with the second base station system through a link between the first and second base station systems to perform the handoff.

25. (Previously Presented) The article of claim 24, wherein the first base station comprises a 1xRTT base station, and wherein the instructions when executed cause the first base station system to exchange 1xRTT signaling with the mobile station.

26. (Previously Presented) The article of claim 25, wherein the instructions when executed cause the first base station system to determine if handoff is required by determining if handoff is required from the 1xRTT base station to one of a 1xEV access network and a High Data Rate (HDR) access network.

27. (Original) The article of claim 24, wherein the first base station comprises one of a High Data Rate (HDR) access network and a 1xEV access network, and wherein the instructions when executed cause the first base station system to exchange one of High Data Rate (HDR) signaling and 1xEV signaling with the mobile station.

28. (Previously Presented) The article of claim 27, wherein the instructions when executed cause the first base station system to determine if handoff is required by determining if handoff is required from the one of the High Data Rate (HDR) access network and 1xEV access network to a 1xRTT base station.

29. (Previously Presented) The article of claim 24, wherein the instructions when executed cause the first base station system to exchange the messaging by sending a message to the second base station system indicating that a handoff is required.

30. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein sending the message comprises sending the message over a link that directly connects the first base station and second base station.

31. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 16, wherein the interface allows the messaging to be sent from the first base station system directly to the second base station system.

32. (Previously Presented) The article of claim 24, wherein exchanging the messaging with the second base station through the link comprises exchanging the messaging with the second base station through the link that directly connects the first base station system to the second base station system.

33. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the mobile station comprises a hybrid mobile station that is able to support at least two different wireless communications protocols including a first wireless communications protocol and a second wireless communications protocol,

wherein determining if the handoff is required from the first base station to the second base station comprises determining if the handoff is required from the first base station that communicates with the hybrid mobile station according to the first wireless communications protocol, to the second base station that communicates with the hybrid mobile station according to the second wireless communications protocol.

34. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 33, wherein the first wireless communications protocol comprises a 1xEV protocol, and the second wireless communications protocol comprises a 1xRTT protocol.

35. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 16, wherein the mobile station comprises a hybrid mobile station that is able to perform wireless communications according to both the first and second protocols, the controller to communicate the bearer traffic with the hybrid mobile station.

36. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 35, wherein the first protocol comprises a 1xEV protocol, and the second protocol comprises a 1xRTT protocol.

37. (Previously Presented) The article of claim 24, wherein exchanging the signaling with the mobile station comprises exchanging the signaling with a hybrid mobile station that is able to perform wireless communications according to both the first and second protocols.

38. (Previously Presented) The article of claim 37, wherein the first protocol comprises a 1xEV protocol, and the second protocol comprises a 1xRTT protocol.